Caprella mutica

Japanese skeleton shrimp

General
1. Marine caprellid amphipod

Threat Scores
1. Ecological Impact
   - Fouling organisms.
   - Found in association with the macroalga Sargassum muticum and on artificial substrates such as mooring lines
   - Prevalent in aquacultural facilities
2. Invasive Potential
   - Well established in British coastal waters and is likely to continue spreading.
   - Human activities in coastal waters such as shipping and the movement of small boats around the coast, and aquaculture activities are the factors most likely to influence the spread and distribution
   - Potential for transport in ballast or fouling communities on transoceanic vessels and aquaculture
   - 70% of introductions associated with international ports
   - Also associated with drifting seaweed (Sano et al. 2003)
3. Geographic Extent
   - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
   - No known controls in aquatic environments
   - Prevention includes cleaning ships hulls, sterilizing ballast and fouling communities

Geography and Habitat
1. Native: Japan
2. Introduced: Pacific Coast, from Washington to California
3. Habitat
   - Marine, coastland, aquaculture
   - Upper subtidal zone to depths of over 13 m

Invasion Pathways
1. Stocking in open water
2. Ballast water and sediment

Non-Native Locations
1. 56- Puget Trough/Georgia Basin
2. 57- OR, WA, Vancouver
3. 58- Northern California

Sources
1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. “Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity.” *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment